

Indiana State Archives to Accept Hand-Carved Stone Commemorating Scottish-Americans

INDIANAPOLIS (July 9, 2012) – A hand-carved piece of Indiana Limestone from California stone carver Frank Maurer will be dedicated to the Indiana State Archives on July 30th. Maurer has traveled the country, providing numerous states archives with hand-carved stones representing their states. Through the stones, Maurer seeks to draw attention to the heritage of Scottish-Americans and Tartan Day. Indiana State Archivist Jim Corridan will accept the Tartan Stone from Maurer at an event on July 30th at 10:30 a.m. at the Indiana State Library (315 W Ohio Street, Indianapolis).

Tartan day was first declared by the United States Senate as a Resolution in 1998 and later as a national day of recognition in 2008. April 6th was chosen as Tartan Day because Robert the Bruce of Scotland wrote the Declaration of Arbroath on that date in 1320, asking for the freedom of Scotland from England. Thomas Jefferson later used this document as a model for the Declaration of Independence. Maurer created the first Tartan Stone in 2000 with a presentation to the California State Archives.

This event is provided at no cost by the Indiana State Archives and State Library. Those of Scottish descent or those interested in history and genealogy are encouraged to attend. Approximately 30 minutes long, Maurer will illustrate the importance of our State Archives while highlighting the history of Scotland and the United States, Tartan Day, as well as his own Scottish genealogy.

“The Tartan Stone will be a welcome addition to Indiana’s cultural heritage as it commemorates the significant contributions of the thousands of Scottish Hoosiers who have contributed to Indiana and the nation,” said Jim Corridan, Director and State Archivist of the Indiana Commission on Public Records.

About Frank Maurer

Frank Maurer holds a doctorate in Vertebrate Zoology and Ecology from Cornell University, and has been interpreting the world and its biological systems for several decades. Maurer has traced his ancestral connections to the Picts of Scotland, the master Celtic stone carvers. Launching his stone carving career with a miniature of The Crow Stane of Rhynie, Scotland, Maurer has since branched out, creating both Celtic and non-Celtic themes in stone.

About the Indiana State Archives

The Indiana State Archives collects records of historical value from all branches of Indiana state and local government, including governmental history, census and naturalization records for families, selected medical, military and criminal records, records of land ownership, maps, blueprints and photographs. Visit the archives.icpr.IN.gov for a detailed listing of these resources, including links to online exhibits and electronic indices of select records.